

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06 IO-14 DRC-01

/189 W

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P R 172148Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2343

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3043

POUCHED ALL CONSULATES IN CANADA FOR INFO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN REACTION TO SECRETARY'S ENERGY ACTION PROPOSAL

REF: OTTAWA 3037

1. DURING COURSE OF CALL BY ECON COUNSELOR ON GORDON MACNABB
(SENIOR ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES)

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CONCERNING U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS ON PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM

PRODUCTS, MACNABB STATED THAT HE WISHED TO RAISE MATTER OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ENERGY ACTION PROPOSAL.

2. MACNABB REPORTED DISQUIETING "SECOND-HAND" INFORMATION REACHING GOC FROM LONDON. NAMELY, GOC HAS HEARD THAT THERE HAD BEEN U.S.-U.K. DISCUSSION OF LIMITING HIGH-LEVEL ACTION GROUP TO THREE MEMBERS (ONE EACH FROM EUROPE, JAPAN, AND NORTH AMERICA) AND THAT IDEA HAD BEEN FLOATED THAT VARIOUS NATIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES SHOULD BE POOLED "IN ONE POT." IN THE CASE OF CANADA, MACNABB SAID THAT ALBERTA'S ATHABASCA OIL SANDS WAS ONE OF THE NATIONAL RESOURCES DISCUSSED FOR SUCH TREATMENT.

3. MACNABB STATED THAT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT IN CANADIAN CONTEXT THAT "A LID BE PUT ON SUCH TALK" WHICH RAISES SPECTER THAT OUTSIDERS WILL BE MAKING DECISIONS REGARDING CANADIAN RESOURCES, A CONCEPT WHICH IS ANATHEMA TO CANADA. WITH SPECIFIC REGARD TO ATHABASCA OIL SANDS, MACNABB SAID THAT ANY PROPOSALS FOR ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT OF THIS RESOURCE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN LIGHT OF POTENTIAL SERIOUS DISRUPTION OF CANADIAN ECONOMY, GIVEN SKILLED LABOR SHORTAGES, ENORMOUS CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIRED, ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS, AND UNRESOLVED TECHNOLOGICAL BARRIERS.

4. MACNABB URGED CLARIFICATION OF THESE REPORTS NOW REACHING GOC IN ORDER TO PUT SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL INTO PROPER PERSPECTIVE. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE.
SCHMIDT

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